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DR. H. E. HASSE

HERMANN EDWARD HASSE,—LICHENIST

BRUCE FINK

With the passing of Doctor Hasse, October 15, 1915, botanical science lost the man who has added, it seems, the largest number of lichens to our North American flora, through his own collecting, since the days of Tuckerman. In a letter to the present writer, in 1905, Doctor Hasse said, referring to a mention of his work, "As to the very kind mention you have made of my very unworthy self in the historical part of your paper, I must say that I can scarcely deserve so much credit as you have awarded me. It has been almost entirely a matter of muscle and luck rather than brains in collecting species." However, we must still insist that the keen observation and the great pains and zeal shown in collecting so many rare things as did the late Californian lichenist involve much more than "muscle and luck." This is especially true since he entered the work after the conspicuous species had been named, and his new species were almost entirely obscure ones. But again we may call attention to the fact that Doctor Hasse's best work was accomplished, as will be seen, after the date at which he wrote the above statement.

The present writer began with Doctor Hasse, soon after his first paper on lichens appeared in 1895, a correspondence which extended through two decades. Doctor Hasse was an isolated worker and was more communicative by letter than are most botanists. Thus it comes that through this correspondence of twenty years, we have before us the main facts regarding the life of the subject of our sketch. He wrote in one letter of his birth in Freiburg, Germany, in 1836, and of his migration to America at nine years of age. Ten years later he began to work for "a druggist, a thorough chemist and botanist, to whose instruction," he says he owed "the predilection for the latter science." He began the study of medicine in St. Louis in 1856, but went to Europe the following year, where he continued the study for four years, mainly at Leipzig, with short periods of study at Prague

and Wurzburg. Returning to America in 1861, he served throughout the entire Civil War as surgeon to the 9th and the 24th Wisconsin Infantry Regiments. Throughout the war, he carried a copy of the 1857 edition of Gray's Manual, which he kept to his last days as a cherished souvenir, well filled with annotations about plants observed.

After the war, Doctor Hasse practiced medicine in Wisconsin, Missouri, Arkansas, and California, entering the last State in 1879. Ten years later, he was appointed surgeon to the Soldier's Home near Santa Monica, California, and it was in this position that botanists came to know him as a student of lichens. He resigned in 1905 and, for the last ten years of his life, gave his attention largely to the study of his favorite plants. He says in one of his letters, "I took up with lichens about 1880. But the real incentive was given about 1890, by a circular from the late Doctor Stizenberger, in which he desired contributions of Pacific Coast lichens." So it appears that Doctor Hasse worked as a collector for fifteen years before botanists became aware of him through his papers, and was at work for thirty-five years instead of merely the twenty years during which his papers were appearing frequently.

As is well known, our Californian collector and student of lichens began his work at a time when it was difficult to get much help in America. By that time he was needing help badly. Tuckerman was dead, and Willey was beyond his active years. Writing in 1896 he said, "Professor Farlow has, with great kindness, helped me out, but I am fearful of encroaching too much upon his time." Aside from this help, Doctor Hasse had no choice but to continue to send his material to Doctors Stizenberger, Nylander, and Zahlbruckner in turn. Hence the early new species were named entirely by these three European lichenists, though Doctor Hasse has in recent years named a considerable number of his new species for himself, working against the handicap of lack of literature and large collections of specimens. The three European lichenists frequently sent the names of new species with very brief diagnostic notes or none at all. In some instances descriptions were written later by themselves, or perhaps more often by Doctor Hasse as we infer from his state-

ments in letters to the present writer. How many of these still remain undescribed, could only be determined by a comparison of Doctor Hasse's correspondence with the three lichenists named with the lists of new species published as a result of his many years of collecting.

Doctor Hasse's work grew constantly in interest and importance from 1895, when his first contribution appeared until the time when his largest contribution appeared in 1913. The genus *Hassea* and several species were dedicated to him. The total number of new species resulting from his collecting in southern California in twenty-five years is not far from 75. "The lichen flora of Southern California," published in 1913 by the Smithsonian Institution, a manual of 145 pages, containing descriptions of about 400 species of lichens, with good keys, is a fitting monument to his industry and his knowledge of the lichen flora of the region covered. As will be noted in the list of titles to follow, a number of additions to the flora of the region were made after the appearance of this work.

In 1906, Mr. John I. Kane presented to the New York Botanical Garden about 3,000 species and many duplicates from Doctor Hasse's herbarium. After the death of Doctor Hasse, a large collection of lichens was purchased for the Cryptogamic Herbarium of Harvard University from Mrs. Hasse. The collection now at Harvard must be the one used by Doctor Hasse in his final work on the lichen flora of Southern California.

LIST OF PAPERS BY DOCTOR HASSE

- Lichens of the vicinity of Los Angeles. I. *Erythea* 3: 41-44. 1895.
 A list of 90 lichens with habitats. *Rinodina angelica* and *Verrucaria plumbaria* were named by Doctor Stizenberger.
- Lichens of the vicinity of Los Angeles. II. *Erythea* 4: 96-98. 1896.
 A list of 29 lichens with habitats, determined by Doctor Stizenberger.
- Lichens of the vicinity of Los Angeles. III. *Erythea* 4: 106-108. 1896.
 A list of 56 lichens with habitats. *Lecanora redimita* and *Biatora phaeophora* were named by Doctor Stizenberger.
- Lichens of the vicinity of Los Angeles. IV. *Erythea* 4: 150, 151. 1896.
 A list of 17 lichens, mostly determined by Doctor Farlow.
- New species of lichens from Southern California as determined by Dr. W. Nylander and the late Dr. Stizenberger. *Bull. Torr. Bot. Club* 24: 445-449. 1897.
 Descriptions of 19 new lichens as follows: *Parmelia subolivacea* Nyl.,

Heppia terrena Nyl., *Lecanora pleistospora* Nyl., *L. pleiospora* Nyl., *L. rediunta* Stiz., *L. obpalens* Nyl., *L. (Placodium) subpyraceella* Nyl., *L. stenospora* Stiz., *Rinodina angelica* Stiz., *Lecidea dolodes* Nyl., *L. subplebia*, *L. catalinaria* Stiz., *L. (Biatora) phaeospora* Stiz., *L. squalida persimilans* Nyl., *Arthonia subdisjuncta* Nyl., *Verrucaria plumbaria* Stiz., *V. submuralis* Nyl., *V. squamella* Nyl., and *V. inductula* Nyl.

Lichens of Southern California. Pamphlet, 1-18. Los Angeles, R. R. Baumgartner and Company, 1898.

A list of 307 lichens with notes, being a second edition of the portion on lichens in McCletchie's Seedless Plants of Southern California, 1897. New lichens named by Doctor Nylander are *Homodium microdium*, *Collemopsis segregata*, *Pannularia ruderatula*, *Heppia leptopholis*, *Lecanora (Placodium) peludella*, *L. subdispersa*, *L. praecrenata*, *L. glaucopisma*, *Arthonia pruinosella*, *Lecidea admiscens*, *L. atrolutescens*, *L. fuscatoatra*, and *Verrucaria bacillosa*.

New species of lichens from Southern California determined by Professor W. Nylander. Bull. Torr. Bot. Club 25: 632, 633. 1898.

The species described are four: *Lecanora praecrenata*, *Arthonia pruinosella*, *Thelopsis subporinella*, and *Lecidea triphragmioides*.

The genus *Dirina* in North America. Bull. So. Cal. Acad. Sci. 13: 26, 27. 1902.

Notes on *Dirina rediunta* (Stiz.) Zahlbr. and *D. Hassei* Zahlbr.

The lichen flora of San Clemente Island. Bull. So. Cal. Acad. Sci. 2: 54, 55. 1903.

A list of 22 lichens with habitats.

Contributions to the lichen flora of the California Coast Islands. Bull. So. Cal. Acad. Sci. 2: 23-26. 32-35. 1903.

The two lists contain somewhat more than 100 lichens with localities. Additions to the lichen flora of Southern California. Bull. So. Cal. Acad. Sci. 2: 52-54. 58-60. 71-73. 1903.

Lists of about 120 lichens with notes. Nineteen lichens are spoken of as new. Of these 15 had been previously described, while *Buellia triphragmioides* appears as a nomen nudum. New and described by Nylander are *Lecidea dolodes*, *Verrucaria discordans*, and *V. dacryodes*. Contributions to the lichen flora of Southern California. Bull. So. Cal. Acad. Sci. 5: 38-45. 1906.

A list of 98 lichens with notes.

A few lichens picked up on San Jacinto Mountain. Bull. So. Cal. Acad. Sci. 4: 123-125. 1906.

A short list with notes.

Unreported plants from the vicinity of Los Angeles, California. Muhlenbergia 3: 114. 1907.

Consists of notes on two rare seed plants.

Lichens collected in the Tehachepi Mountains, California. Bryologist 11: 55-57. 1908.

A list of 56 lichens with notes.

Additions to the lichen flora of Southern California. Bryologist 11: 6, 7. 1908.

A list of 16 lichens with notes *Lecanactis salicina* Zahlbr. appears as a nomen nudum.

Lichens collected in the Tehachepi Mountains (a correction). Bryologist 11: 74. 1908.

A note correcting two citations of authors in the previous paper.

Additions to the lichen flora of Southern California. Bryologist 13: 60-62. 1910.

Descriptions of five lichens, of which *Bacidia clementis* Hasse and *Haematomma pacifica* Hasse are new species.

Additions to the lichen flora of Southern California. No. 4. Bryologist 13: 111-112. 1910.

The paper consists of descriptions of three lichens, of which *Lecanora marginalis* Hasse is new.

Additions to the lichen flora of Southern California. No. 5. Bryologist 14: 2-4. 1911.

Descriptions of five lichens, of which *Biatorrella terrena* Hasse, *Acarospora peltata* Hasse, and *Caloplaca verrucosa* Hasse are new.

Additions to the lichen flora of Southern California. No. 6. Bryologist 14: 100-102. 1911.

The paper consists of descriptions of the following new species, named by Hasse: *Heppia Zahlbruckneri*, *Bacidia Kingmani*, *Dirina catalinae*, and *Caloplaca Rosei*.

Additions to the lichen flora of Southern California. No. 7. Bryologist 15: 45-48. 1912.

Descriptions of nine rare lichens, of which *Lecidea bullata* Hasse and *Mycoporellum Hassei* Zahlbr. are new.

Additions to the lichen flora of Southern California. No. 8. Bryologist 16: 1, 2. 1913.

The paper consists of descriptions of four lichens, of which *Maronea constans subleideina* Zahlbr. and *Dermatocarpon Zahlbruckneri* Hasse are new.

The lichen flora of Southern California. Cont. U. S. Nat. Herb. 17: I-XIII. 1-132. 1913.

This publication contains good keys, and descriptions of about 400 lichens, of which about 65 were discovered in the region covered. New species are *Microglæna subcorallina* Hasse, *Endocarpon lepidillum* Nyl., *Thelopsis subporinella* Nyl., *Mycoporellum epistigmellum* Hasse, *M. Hassei* Zahlbr., *Lecidea fuscatoatra* Nyl., *L. subplebeia* Nyl., and *Acarospora aeruginosa* Hasse.

Report of the lichen department for 1913. Bryologist 17: 15. 1914.

A new *Reinkella* from Mexico, *Reinkella Parishii* Hasse. Bryologist 17: 45, 46. 1914.

Additions to the lichen flora of Southern California. No. 9. Bryologist 17: 61-63. 1914.

Lecania fructigena Zahlbr., *Acarospora californica* Zahlbr., *Placolecania Hassei* Zahlbr., and *Lecanora peltastictoides* Hasse are new.

A new species of *Blastenia*. Bryologist 17: 92. 1914.

Doctor Hasse describes *Blastenia Herrei* from Washington.

Report of the lichen department for 1914. Bryologist 18: 15, 16. 1915.

Additions to the lichen flora of Southern California. No. 10. Bryologist 18: 22, 23. 1915.

Two of Doctor Zahlbruckner's new species are described, *Rinodina dirinoides* and *R. euryspora*.

A note on *Blastenia Herrei* Hassé. *Bryologist* 18: 29. 1915.

The note states that this species is a synonym for *Lecanora atrosanguinea* Merrill, previously described.

Additions to the lichen flora of Southern California. No. 11. *Bryologist* 18: 76-79. 1915.

A list of species with notes.

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